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Cassis law on out-of-state waste upheld by federal court

LANSING – Michigan has moved a step closer to having the out-of-state waste restrictions residents have been calling for, thanks to a ruling issued in federal court upholding state law.

U.S. District Court Judge Avern Cohn has ruled Michigan's new restrictions on out-of-state waste are constitutional and can be implemented immediately.

"This ruling brings us one step closer to being able to restrict out-of-state waste in our landfills," Cassis said. "It just makes sense that Michigan landfills only accept trash from places with laws as protective as ours. Solid waste that does not meet Michigan's tough standards will not be accepted here."

Senate Bill 502 was part of a package of new laws imposing restrictions on the importation of Canadian and out-of-state waste. The Cassis-sponsored law requires that the Department of Environmental Quality provide a list of items prohibited from disposal in our landfills.

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